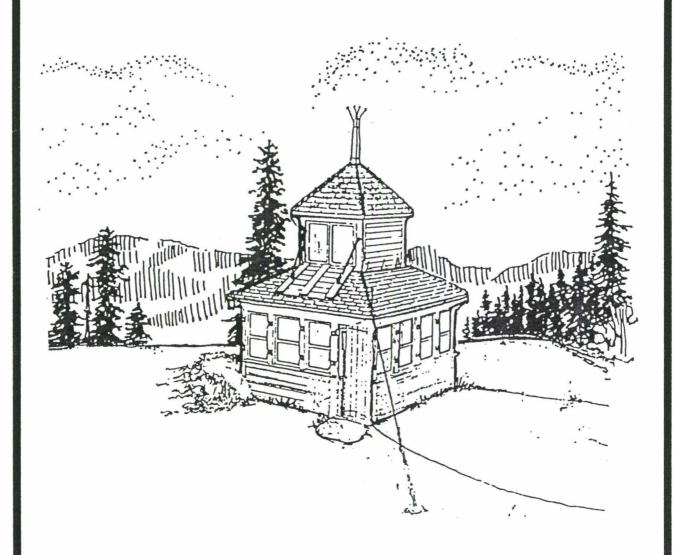
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# A DESIGN NARRATIVE for KLOSHE NANITCH LOOKOUT



Soleduck Ranger District Olympic National Forest

# A Design Narrative for Kloshe Nanitch Lookout

Soleduck Ranger District Olympic National Forest

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: A DESIGN NARRATIVE for KLOSHE NANITCH LOOKOUT

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SUMMARY: Kloshe Nanitch Lookout offers diverse educational and recreational opportunities. Visible from US Highway 101, it is a beacon to the "Olympic Loop" travel corridor. The Design Narrative develops site direction from an integrated look at existing conditions, landscape elements and expected needs. Its purpose is to be a working document for the development of the Kloshe Nanitch Site.

- METHOD: 1. In addition to an extensive literature search, research included a 1991 survey of the management of existing Region Six (R6) lookouts and their programs. APPENDIX A includes a survey form that displays the range of data: lookout, access, use, management plans, etc. (Results will be compiled as an R6 reference under separate cover).
  - 2. The scoping process included public meetings and state, federal, and private contacts. Site objectives were based on identified need and demand for lookout experiences; more facilities in Sol Duc valley (with other ownerships constrained); and community diversification by providing an experience unavailable elsewhere in western Washington.
  - 3. Six alternatives were developed. Four of these expand the site by constructing alternate access and parking and diverting traffic flows. Expansion met the combined needs of the Mt. Muller trail system. Safety, resource impacts, and visitor experiences were the main differences. The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) was used as a principle method used to compare alternatives.

FORMAT: The project contains four parts:

PART I - SITE CHARTER describes the site, its functions and values.

PART II - SITE ANALYSIS incorporates concerns and develops Design Criteria.

PART III - DESIGN CONCEPTS develop and compare alternatives.

PART IV - APPENDICES include reference material.

SCOPE: While the plan provides guiding principles for development, some of these concepts can and should change during project planning or implementation as new information becomes available.

The interdisciplinary team and others whose contributions made this possible, are listed in Acknowledgements.

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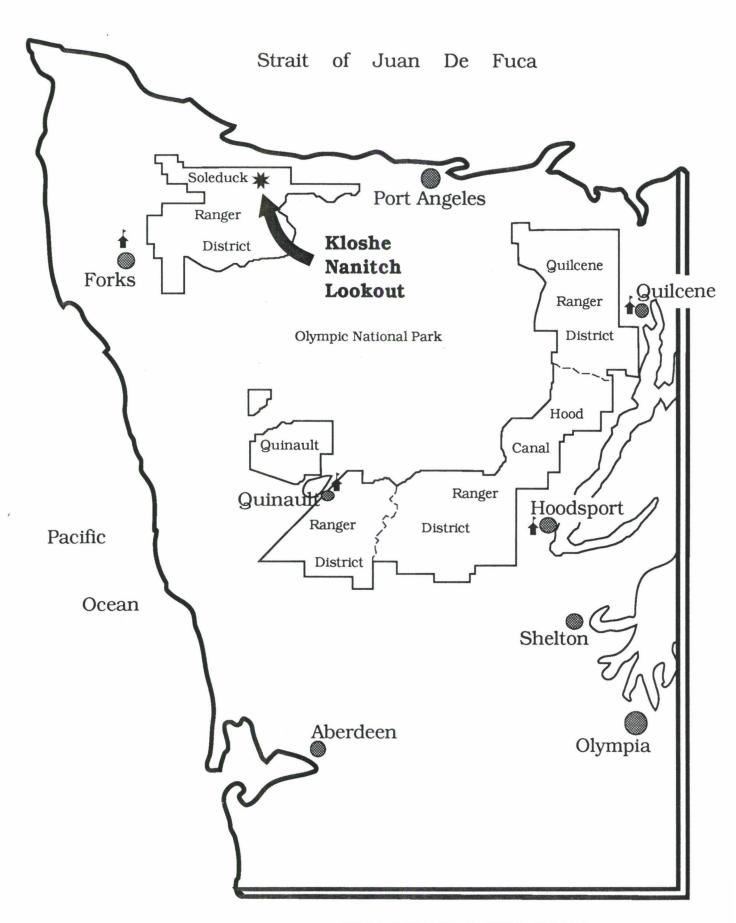
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APPENDIX	D:	Comparison of ROS Elements



THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA

## **ACRONYMS**

# Index of Abbreviations

DNR: Department of Natural Resources (Washington State)

FS: Forest Service

F/WS: US Fish and Wildlife Service

HCA: Habitat Conservation Area The term refers to management areas set

aside or reserved primarily as spotted owl habitat.

IAC: Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (Washington State)

ITT: ITT Rayonier Grant Foundation is a private landowner and organization.

NF: National Forest

ONF: Olympic National Forest

ONP: Olympic National Park

PAOT: People At One Time measures how many people may use a site at a time.

PETS: proposed, endangered, threatened, sensitive (plant and animal species)

R6: Region Six

RO: Regional Office

ROS: Recreation Opportunity Spectrum is a system that describes types of

recreational experiences available.

SHPO: Office of Archaeologic and Historic Preservation (Washington State)

monitors all ground disturbing activities within the State.



Part 1

**Site Charter** 

#### A. THE SITE

This section describes the landscape elements, background, and existing site conditions in detail.

# 1. Location and Area

Kloshe Nanitch is administered by the Soleduck Ranger District. It is in the northwest corner of Olympic National Forest (ONF) and the Olympic Peninsula. Olympic National Park (ONP) borders along the south and Puget Sound is 100 miles east.

The site includes ten acres around the rocky bald outcrop Kloshe Nanitch (Chinook Jargon for "good view"). It is on the south rim of Snider Ridge, northeast of Snider Work Center, and is visible from US Highway 101. Forest Road 3040 595 bisects the site, ending a half mile beyond it.

The legal is T30N, R11W, Sec. 23, W.M., Clallam County, WA.

# 2. General Topography and Soils

Snider Ridge is a parallel geographic divider between the Sol Duc Valley and Strait of Juan de Fuca. Kloshe Nanitch is a prominent landform about five miles midway between Mt. Muller and the west end of the ridge. The slope varies from 5% to over 90% and is intermingled with rock and cliffs. Exposure is south to southwest and the elevation is 3160' at the site.

The 60 - 61C soil types have weathered to a typical reddish-brown color from marine basalt parent material. Those in the 35% to 65% slope category (generally above the road) are deeper and much more stable compared to steeper erosive slopes below. The competency is a range from moderately hard to very brittle and hardening is not a problem. Engineering field reviews revealed no limiting factors for site design.

# 3. Weather and Drainage Patterns

The area receives 80 inches of annual precipitation, usually in the form of rain or fog and a moderate snow pack. Prevailing weather is from the southwest and includes occasional severe winds. The well-drained soils have rapid permeability and don't retain water. The nearest source of surface water is a year-round flow two miles west on the 3040 road.

# 4. Vegetation $\frac{1}{2}$

Kloshe Nanitch is in a transition area between a Western hemlock and high elevation Silver fir vegetation zone. This describes the "climax stand" if left alone to nature. While species from both zones exist, the predominant elements are those of the Silver Fir classification.

Small scattered openings are interspersed among stagnant, dense 40 year old stands that average 8-12" dbh and 25 feet high. The poor vigor is due to low productivity, previous fire history, too many stems competing for limited moisture, and harsh growing conditions.

Overstory: The predominate tree species are Pacific silver fir and western hemlock with small amounts of each valley forest conifer: Douglas fir, western redcedar, spruce and pine.

Groundcover: Underneath the forest canopy, vegetation is limited to shade and drought tolerant species like kinnickinnick and salal. Open areas provide a diverse array of wildflowers that begin a long and varied bloom period each spring.

No known proposed, endangered, threatened or sensitive (PETS) species occur. Field reviews do indicate a diverse plant ecology, represented below with selected species from the current identified list:

LOW-ELEVATION	SEA LEVEL to	HIGH-ELEVATION	NON-FOREST (Rock outcrop)
FOREST	SUB-ALPINE	MEADOW	
* Oregon grape  * Lily-of-the-valley  * Kinnickinnick  * Salal	* Bunchberry * Wild strawberry	<pre>* Mountain valerian * Avalanche lily * Indian paintbrush * Columbia lily * Broadleaf lupine * Queen's cup</pre>	* Sandwort * Wooley- sunflower

# 5. Wildlife $\frac{1}{2}$

The area provides habitat to the normal array of wildlife, including dispersal components for PETS species. It is a designated Category 3 Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) for spotted owl, but lies outside the 2.2 mile range. It borders "suitable habitat," but lacks components necessary to nest, roost, or forage. 1991 and 1992 surveys could not determine owl status in the area.

Analyses of potential impacts determined the project "May Not Effect" known PETS species in biological evaluations dated 7/26/91 (VanEmeiren) and 7/27/92 (Stengle). The US Fish and Wildlife Service (F/WS) concurs.

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{1}/$  See APPENDIX B for scientific names.

# 6. History

<u>Use</u>:  $\frac{1}{}$  Construction of the first lookout post at Kloshe Nanitch began in 1916. It was a D-6 cupola with no windows along the north wall. This differed from the standard 12-by-12' kit with windows on all sides. The first known fire report from Kloshe Nanitch was reported in 1918 according to research of Regional Office (RO) records by Ron Johnson.

A 1919 Washington State Forester report lists it as cooperatively maintained by state, private and federal agencies, including the US Spruce Corporation, with an operating budget of \$1829.

By the 1950's it had been replaced with an "L-5" design (indicated by photos courtesy of L.Mason). By 1960 the post was relocated to North Point, a half mile east, in the "L" style. The move expanded the view to the north, but reduced it to the south.

<u>Heritage resources</u>: Cultural indicators have been identified and reviewed by the Office of State Historic Preservation:

- o Pre-1916 access trail (from Snider Ranger Station)
- o Radio-telephone pole (with dangling "No. 9" wire)
- o Spool of "No. 9" telephone wire
- o Remnants of planks and supports (possibly an outhouse)
- o Remnants of planks (possibly part of one of the lookouts)

<u>Burn</u>: Snider Ridge burned in 1907, 1914 and 1927. The harsh effects from the last fire are displayed in 1935 Osborne photos. Fire history has been compiled in "The Effect of Nontreatment of Slash in the Silver Fir Zone on the Soleduck Ranger District," by G.Stone, 1984.

Name: There is no known Native American use, but Chinook Jargon is a centuries old trade language. Common use of Kloshe is "good" or "splendid" and Nanitch is a verb "to see, look, view, observe." Combined, it literally means "good view," "look out," "guard" ("CHINOOK: A History and Dictionary," E.H.Thomas, 1935, p.83,95).

Based on photos and information courtesy of Ron Johnson, Catherine Morganroth Flaherty, Magda Kaemmle, and Larry Mason.

# 7. Setting

The primary focus is the remote, historic character of Kloshe Nanitch Lookout. Attention is then drawn to the landscapes and scenic views. The rocky meadow ridge reaches east to Lake Crescent; Olympic foothills are to the south; and the Sol Duc River winds through the valley below.

The setting provides elements of a "back country" experience with its unique features, challenging access, and landscapes either undeveloped or with few obvious management alterations. Characteristics meet the "mountain meadow" definition in C.P. Lyons' "Trees, Shrubs and Plants of Washington." The recreation experience from the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum is "Roaded Natural" (see page 8).

# 8. Existing Facilities

<u>Lookout</u>: Construction of the third known lookout began in 1990, funded by the ITT Rayioner Grant Foundation. The modified 14-by-14' cupola recreates the feel of the original ground-based lookout, including its windowless north wall. Minor changes were made to incorporate safety and maintenance concerns:

- o Only one lower window opens above the cliff. A protective grid fitted to the window will reduce the risk of a fall.
- o The door width, window view and floor space provides universal access. A ramp will provide universal access to the building.
- o Interior supports modify the original construction to meet modern building codes and to eliminate risk from excessive snow load.
- o Windows are made with plexiglass instead of glass.

 $\overline{\text{Road}}$ : Forest Road 3040 595 is a gravelled, single-lane with turnouts. It bisects the site in a 90 degree turn with an 8% grade and 21 foot average width. The road ends at North Point, a half mile away.

<u>Parking</u>: The core use area is a 70-by-70' undeveloped area between the lookout and the road. It accomodates up to seven vehicles.

# 9. Existing Use

Kloshe Nanitch is a short destination day trip. The features attract hiking, picnicking, photography and mountain bike use. It is managed as a dispersed site in general undeveloped forest. There are three seasons of use, with the highest in summer and fewer visits in the spring and fall. Visitor behavior is good indicated by low vandalism and litter.

Visitor interests and capabilities are diverse. Most are Peninsula residents or special interest groups (lookout enthusiasts, schools, church, or scouts). Some visitor use is from local campgrounds:

Campground	<u>Ownership</u>	Location
Klahowya Fairholm Wahlgren	(ONF) (ONP) State	Milepost 212 on 101 Lake Crescent Bear Creek
Tumbling Rapids Sol Duc Hot Springs	Private (ONP)	Sappho Sol Duc Resort

# 10. Current Effects on Resources

The following impacts from existing use are expected to increase with more use:

- a) Random parking has worn patches in the native ground cover.
- b) Pedestrian traffic concentrated around vistas and fragile rock outcrops have resulted in scattered denuded areas.
- c) Random use of the road cutbank has created a continually eroding "hill climb" to access the bench above.

# 11. Current Health and Safety Factors

Site characteristics identified as health or safety concerns are illustrated in <u>Figure 1: Existing Site Conditions</u>, page 6. The impacts and associated risk are expected to increase with use:

- a) The lack of sanitation facilities encourages scattered exposed waste in areas screened by vegetation around the lookout and above the road.
- b) The narrow road and limited core area require a crowded mix of vehicle and pedestrian traffic.
- c) The 90 degree turn in the road creates a "blind corner" that increases risk of injury or accident during heavy use.
- d) Undefined parking results in vehicles projecting into the traffic roadway.
- e) Rock cliff areas attract use and have no safety features.
- f) The single-lane access with turnouts is a risk to those not familiar with backroad driving or careless drivers.

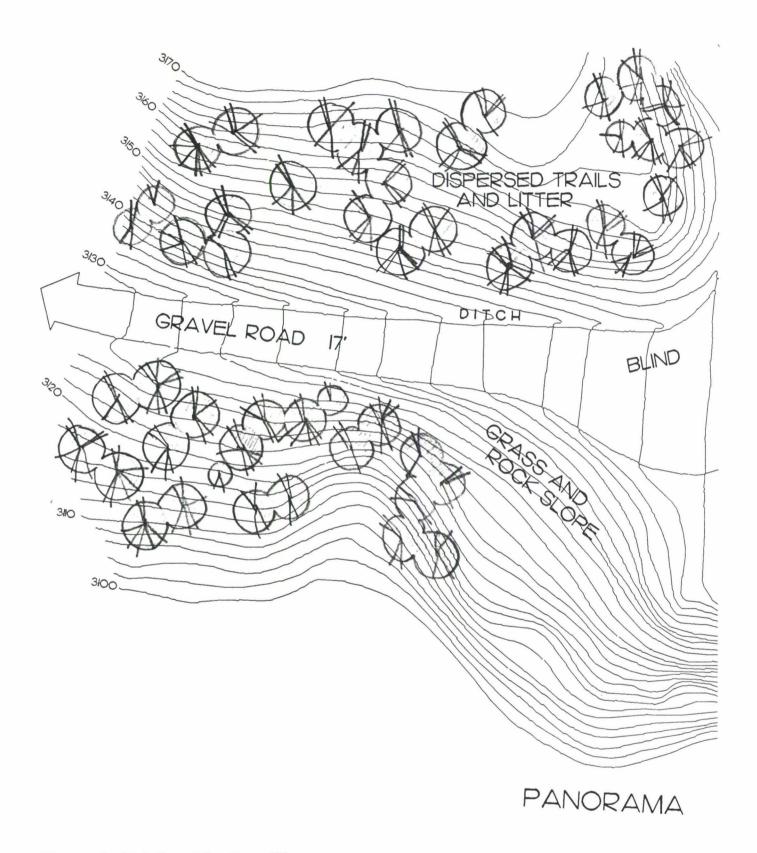
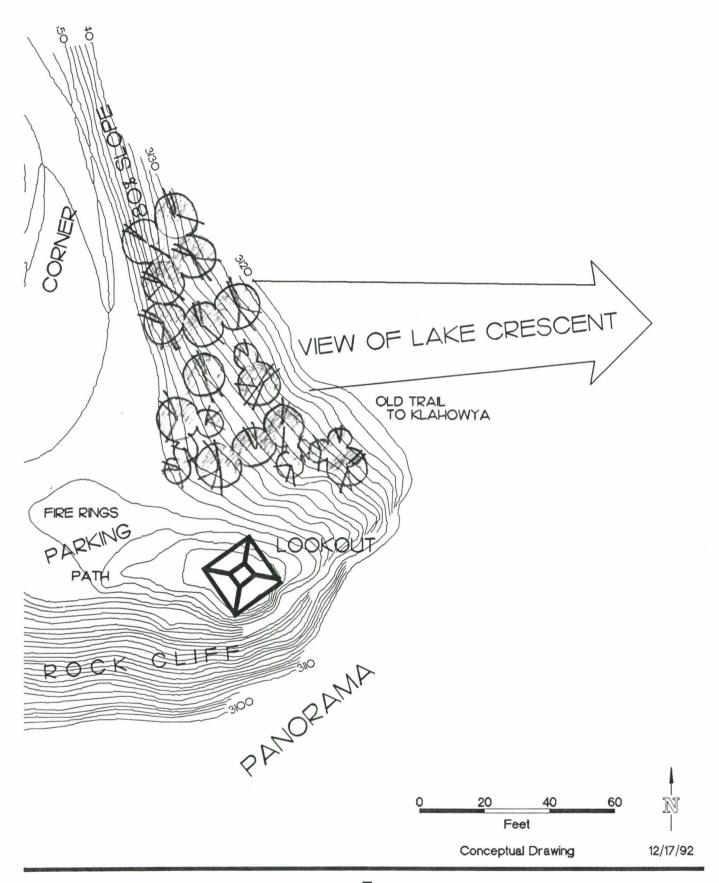


Figure 1: Existing Site Conditions



# 12. Vehicle Access

Snider Road provides the most direct, scenic route. It originates at milepost 211 of US Highway 101 as a narrow, paved half mile to Snider Work Center. Most of the remaining route, via Forest Roads 3040 and 3040 595, is National Forest (NF) land. From Snider it is seven miles of single-lane with turnouts. The Road Management Objective is Level III which designates it be maintained for highway traffic. Due to some narrow 15% grades, motorhome and trailers are not recommended.

Vegetation:

The lower half of the route is partially thinned 40 year old Douglas fir with a salal ground cover. Near the switchback the stand changes to densely stunted hemlock whose condition worsens with elevation. A small parcel of private land was patcheut near milepost 1.4 in 1988.

Experience:

The route is a typical narrow Forest "backroad" with low visibility, small debris slides and a sense of exposure. Drivers tend to hug the inside roadway but shrubs and trees offer a sense of security. Various points offer excellent views of the Sol Duc Valley and Mt. Olympus.

There is risk driving to Kloshe Nanitch. It is consistent with the planned level of limited modifications for a low development scale access. This meets the current objectives and maintains the historic nature of the road and its recreation experience. The route has been reviewed by Regional Office Recreation staff and may qualify for a Backroad Scenic Byway program.

Alternate routes via State Highway 112 and Forest Road 3067 offer similar driving conditions and longer exposures to risk.

## 13. Universal Access

The vehicle access offers splendid views to visitors with limited mobility. The site is somewhat limiting for those requiring a higher degree of assistance because there is no developed access with modified grades or surfacing. Level 2 and 3 assessibility is available to those with independent capabilities at the core area where most use occurs and along the 8% road grade. There is currently no Level 4, or highly developed access at the site. The lookout accomodates wheelchairs, but assistance to reach the doorway is required for 60 feet.

#### B. SITE FUNCTIONS

Management objectives or intent for a site is determined by an analysis of use, the need for recreation opportunities, and compatibility with administrative direction and land allocations.

# Current Land Allocations

Forest Plan The long-term goal listed in the 1990 Olympic NF Land and Resource Management Plan is timber production. Stands would be even-aged with some old-growth elements or some ecologic diversity. Compatible uses would be provided and lists Kloshe Nanitch.

Habitat Conservation Area (HCA) Category 3 designations protect habitat at least until sufficient owl populations are located in Category 1 protected areas. The project received F/WS concurrence.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) The ROS setting describes the available recreation experience. Its natural-appearing environment is a "Roaded Natural," characterized by management modifications ranging from blended landscapes to being noticeable.

<u>Visual Quality Objective</u> "Partial Retention" allows management activities to be noticeable but subordinate to natural landscapes.

Recreation Resource Inventory System Activities at the site are classified as use within general forest area. Development levels specify that rustic facilities "designed to provide some user comfort or site protection" are consistent for Roaded Natural.

## 2. Management Objectives

The analysis established management intent or program elements that will be incorporated into the development of the site.

- a) Maintain or enhance the "Roaded Natural" experience of the unique features and remote historic character of the site.
- b) Interpret "historic" features viewed from the site and provide public education of National Forest management.
- c) Provide a range of "universal access" levels to facilities.
- d) Incorporate Mt.Muller trailhead facilities for primary use by hikers and secondary use by horse and mountain bikers.
- e) Provide a "working" backup fire detection for emergency use.
- f) Provide diverse opportunities associated with fire lookouts, including overnight rental use during the off-season.

### C. SITE VALUES

Several features were identified as important to protect or enhance and incorporate into the development of the site. Figure 2: Sol Duc Valley Recreation Opportunities displays the location of the site in relation to some proposed conceptual projects in the area.

- 1. <u>Lookout</u> A recreated cupola will provide visitors with a hands-on experience of a "working" lookout. This will become increasingly difficult as lookouts are removed due to safety or alternative fire protection methods.
- 2. <u>Fire History</u> The start of the **1951 Forks Burn** is visible as well as most of its 30,375 acres (18 miles) that burned in six hours. A 1935 Osborne photo shows 360 degrees of fire effects and offers a comparison of small patch cuts to large natural occurring events.
- 3. Lookout styles North Point post is visible a half mile east and displays a shuttered 1935 profile. Forks Timber Museum has erected a 1955 tower on Highway 101, milepost 191. Two other styles were used on the Quilcene District, including a tree. The evolution of fire protection methods offers another interpretive opportunity.
- 4. <u>Historic View</u> The "look out over time" provides a cultural look at homesteads, early Forest Service life, Civilian Conservation Corps, and vegetation patterns with historic clues of the Spruce Division Railroad. "Wagon wheel" turntables used for WW I spruce airplanes are as distinct today as visible in the 1935 Osborne photos.
- 5. Natural Scenic Overlook The geologic processes that carved the landforms of the Sol Duc River Valley, Lake Crescent, and Olympic foothills are very evident.
- 6. <u>Natural History</u> The transition between ecosystems include lowland conifers and high elevation meadows of native wildflowers.
- 7. <u>Location</u> Being visible from Highway 101 attracts visitors with little effort. The seven mile route offers one of the shortest drives from a major highway to a lookout.
- 8. <u>Trail Development</u> Trail opportunities along Snider Ridge will attract use as well as provide day-use experiences for those who visit the site (see Figure 2):

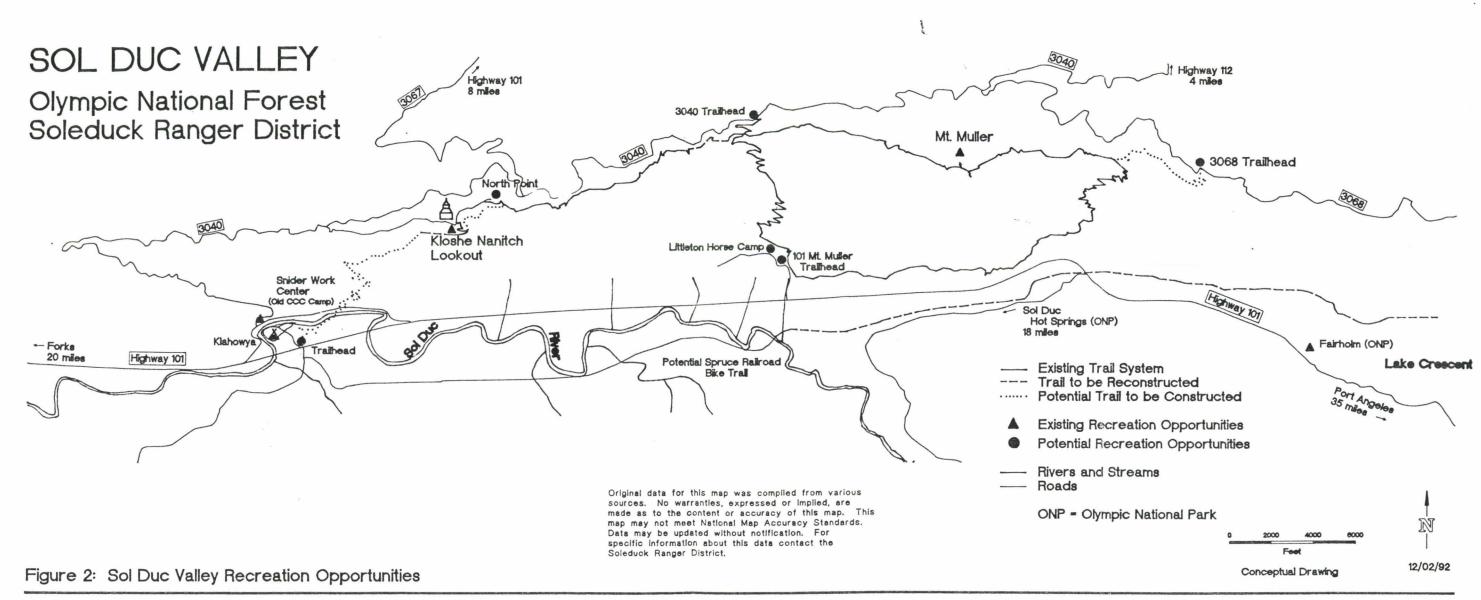
Sol Duc River: 3 mile hike from area campgrounds

Snider Work Center: 12 mile mountain bike loop

Mt.Muller - Littleton Loop: Up to 19 miles of "back country"

hiking or horse use through high

meadows and a temperate forest



#### D. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. Special Use Permittee North Point is an important electronic site administered by a 1983 Special Use Permit. It requires a single lane, full size service vehicle access, currently made through Kloshe Nanitch. The need for the site is expected to continue due to a lack of sites with similar accessibility or radio range.
- 2. Adjacent Landowners The access route crosses two ownerships near milepost 1.4. They include ITT Rayonier timber land and a parcel proposed for a recreation cabin. Requests for road or special use authorizations should consider site objectives where possible.
- 3. Rental Programs The 1991 survey of lookout management in Region Six identified the "Recreation Rental Program," used successfully in other regions. Structures are rented under the Granger-Thye Act and their funds are applied to operation and maintainance. Kloshe Nanitch will be considered for rental to fulfill the visitor demand and provide a source of funding support.
- 4. Lookout Partnerships Partners should be incorporated wherever possible: The State's Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) funded some site work. ITT Rayonier Grant Foundation funded construction of the lookout due to their desire for an "educational and interpretive program for visitors at Kloshe Nanitch." Terms of the Agreement provide 1) Neither party is obligated to expend future funds; 2) ITT Rayonier's contribution does not entitle it to any interest or special rights in the site; and 3) improvements remain the property of the United States.
- 5. Eligibility to the National Historic Register of Lookouts This is a private organization committed to assisting the management of all lookouts through promotion and protection with public involvement. It offers a potential support source for volunteer maintenance and educational programs. According to Doug Newman, former west coast representative, Kloshe Nanitch met criteria and was recommended for registration.
- 6. Condition of the Road Access A potential funding source for reconstruction through timber harvest was lost when the proposal was postponed indefinitely. The District Road Manager identified opportunities to preserve the road integrity as alternate funding sources are pursued.

#### E. TRENDS AND DEMAND

Over 800,000 visitors travelled through the Sol Duc Valley according to 1991 ONP statistics. Trends show a continued increase on both National Forest and Park lands in the area, well above Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan projections. Soleduck District use has shown a 60% increase above 1985 figures based on actual daily visitor counts and this trend is expected to continue.

1992 use at two local sites with similar opportunites were used to base projected estimated use when the site development is complete:

Deer Park: An ONP dispersed site with a 17 mile route, in similar condition to Kloshe Nanitch, had 11,070 visits.

Mt.Walker: An ONF day-use site at Quilcene with a five mile winding but wider access and a view had 45,670 visits.

A variety of indicators were used to determine the need for the site:

a) There is a demand for lookout experiences.

Marketing included a management survey of lookouts throughout the Region, and identified an unmet demand. A few "urban" ROS settings are provided, but semi-remote experiences are limited to extensive backroad travel or hiking. Interest is high, but interpretive or management plans that incorporate this use were not available.

b) Adjacent landowners are constrained from providing opportunities.

Existing facilities in the Sol Duc Valley are at capacity, but the Olympic National Park wilderness designation restricts development. Another limitation and opportunity for the Forest Service, is the Park policy to prohibit dogs in most areas. A primary request from Park visitors is where can they go where dogs are allowed.

- c) The site offers local communities an opportunity to diversify and offers a potential "destination" attraction:
  - 1) Its close proximity to the Puget Sound area is well within the National average of normal recreation commuting distances.
  - 2) There is no other comparable experience in western Washington.
  - 3) The lookout, diversity, and short drive offers one of the most unique, accessible opportunities in Region Six.

# F. PROPOSED FACILITIES

An analyses of the site and program elements identified the facilities necessary for development. If they are required to meet short-term needs for health, safety, or resource protection, they are designated "immediate." Long-term needs are those determined as "future" needs that could be phased in as funding is developed or as warranted by use.

PROPOSED FACILITY	Capacity	Recommended Timeframe	DESIGN STANDARD
Vault toilet	1 unit 1 unit 2 units	immediate future	Universal access: Level 4 1 unit per 25 PAOT 1/ Character theme
Combined Parking (lookout/trailhead)	10 units 10 units 20 units	immediate future	Universal access: Level 2 - 4 Vary size of vehicle parking
Orientation Kiosk	1 unit	immediate	Welcome/visitor use Character theme
Amphitheatre	1 unit	future	Rustic 25 PAOT Universal access: Level 3
Signing	5 units	immediate	Rules/regs for visitor Safety/resource protection
Interpretation & Environmental Education	1 plan (To be de	immediate	Universal access: Level 2 & 3 Character theme Vary methods (self-guide, etc.)
Viewpoints & Trails  Below rockface Overlook point PicNic-Lookout Lookout ramp  Picnic Area	300 feet 200 feet 400 feet 100 feet 2 single 1 group	future future immediate immediate immediate future	Universal access: Level 1 Universal access: Level 2 Universal access: Level 3 Universal access: Level 3  Locate with fire grates Universal access: Level 2 or 3 25 PAOT 1/
1/PAOT = Pe	eople At One	Time (method	to measure visitor capacity)

<sup>1/</sup> PAOT = People At One Time (method to measure visitor capacity)

Note: Immediate = timeframe for facilities to meet short-term needs

Future = timeframe for facilities required to meet long-term needs



Part II

# Site Analysis

This section establishes specific management direction to guide the site development toward the "Desired Future Condition" or goal for the area.

#### A. DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION

The remote historic lookout character and the unique, aesthetic values of the site are preserved. Landscape elements provide a natural appearance and management activities are a subtle blend. A range of recreation opportunities exist for all visitors, and the development compliments a rustic "Roaded Natural" experience.

### B. GENERAL CRITERIA

- 1. Direction was provided in the Forest Plan, as directed by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).
- 2. Forest Service Manual 2330.3 establishes the priorities for site development: a) ensure health and safety; b) protect natural environment; c) enhance interaction with resources; and d) provide new developments that conform.
- 3. Uniform Federal Assessibility Standards require universal access for all users. Challenge Levels 1 3 appropriately meet the "Roaded Natural" ROS experience.

#### C. SITE ANALYSIS

The site analysis includes an indepth look at how the landscape elements, projected use and site conditions are connected.

# 1. Analysis of Existing Conditions

The site components were analyzed and separated into elements with similar aspects, conditions or characteristics. These were then defined by area: 1) where suitable to be developed; 2) where to avoid development; and 3) where some protection may be required.

Figure 3: SITE ANALYSIS DIAGRAM displays the landscape elements and Table 1: SITE ANALYSIS MATRIX summarizes the site characteristics and management considerations.

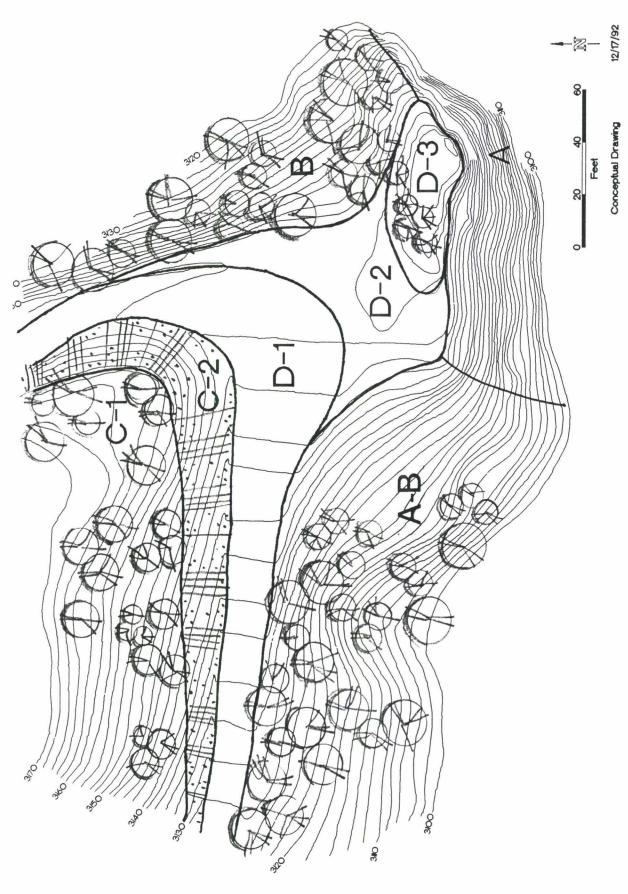


Figure 3: Site Analysis Diagram

LANDSCAPE . ELEMENT & Area	SLOPE . & ASPECT	CHARACTERISTICS	MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS
"A" Cliff Below lookout	   > 90%     S to SE	*Predominantly rock outcrop  *Little to no topsoil; appears fairly stable.  *Exposed to wind and weather  *Minimal vegetation; includes several  native wildflower species  *Medium to low erosion potential  *Highly visible from Highway 101	- PRESERVE FRAGILE AND UNIQUE SPECIES  - INCORPORATE VIEWPOINT W/ SOLEDUCK RIVER TRAIL BELOW ROCK OUTCROP.  - OUTCROP IS NON-BUILDABLE FOR ANY USE DUE TO TERRAIN
"A - B"  Bowl shaped  Area west  of Lookout	> 40%     S to SW	*Transition between "A" and "B" begins w/ herbaceous ground cover & scattered 1' - 5', changing to dense 5" dbh overstory moving towards west.  *Area is 70' wide, above 30' cliffs.  *Topsoil varies few inches to 12".  *Relatively stable in current conditions *Very prone to erosion if disturbed due to shallow soil and steep slopes.  *Visible from Highway 101.	- NEEDS CAREFUL CONSIDERATION FOR ALL DEVELOPMENT AVOID FACILITIES, DUE TO VISABILITY FROM 101 AND TO MAINTAIN GOOD "FIRST IMPRESSION" OF SITE CONSIDER LOW-IMPACT USE TO AVOID DISTURBING FRAGILE VEGETATION - AVOID UNNECESSARY GROUND DISTURBANCE, PARTICULARLY WILDFLOWERS IF TRAIL IS LOCATED HERE, LOCATE ON MOST LEVEL PORTION MAY SUPPORT MINOR CUT/FILLS DUE TO MORE GENTLE SLOPES. DO NOT DRASTICALLY ALTER GRADE. IF MINOR CUTS/FILLS OCCUR, STRING TOPSOIL AND STORE ONSITE.
*B** Northeast of Lookout	> 50%	*Vegetation: slow growing PSF & WH 3' - 40' tall *Supports unique display of wildflowers.  *Fairly sheltered from severe weather.  *Similar to "A - B"'; soil depth is 12"  *Contains some remnants of old FS access trail  *Not visible from Highway 101.	- MINIMIZE GROUND DISTURBANCE; PROBABLY NOT SUITED TO PCA - TRAIL LOCATIONS SHOULD UTILIZE NARROW WIDTH TO MINIMIZE IMPACT: - CONSIDER TRAILHEAD HERE MAINTAIN OR ENHANCE VIEW OF LAKE CRESCENT.
C-1: Bench Above Road	5-25% S-SE 20-50% S-SE	*Secluded from lookout site; sense of privacy.  *Used for sanitation and random trails.  *Moderate erosion potential.  *Not visible from Highway 101  *Serves as a back drop for developed site.  wildflower blooms.  *Not visible from Highway 101.	- POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR DISPERSED USE.  - MONITOR TO AVOID DESTRUCTION OF GROUND COVER.  - MINIMIZE REMOVAL OF TREES  - PROVIDE VIEW OF LOOKOUT FROM PICNIC.  - REHAB DISTURBED CUTBANK; ENHANCE NATURAL APPEARANCE.  - MITIGATE "BLIND CORNER" ON SITE.
"D" D-1: Road D-2: Parking Area	0 - 15	*Blind corner-both directions.  *Compacted surface 18' average width.  *Use: Unregulated parking.  *Native ground cover "worn down".	- PROVIDE PLEASING "FIRST IMPRESSION" - MAINTAIN NATURAL APPEARING CHARACTERISTICS OF SITE.  - MAINTAIN ROS SETTING; LIMIT FACILITIES TO PRESERVE VISUAL SITE INTEGRITY AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS FROM USE CONTROL PARKING TO PREVENT SITE DEGRADATION
D-3: Lookout	   10 	*Access trail parallels cliff.   *Breath taking views. 	- INSTALL CLIFF BARRIER   - MAINTAIN "NO FACILITY ZONE" AROUND LOOKOUT

PSF: Pacific silver fir WH: Western hemlock

# 2. Issues and Concerns

The project scoping and the site analysis identified issues and concerns to be considered in site development. Some of these are incorporated into design criteria and alternatives. Elements that measured differences between the alternatives were used to develop "decision factors" (DF) and are noted below:

# HEALTH AND SAFETY

Can sanitation concerns be eliminated?

How can the rock cliff be managed to meet ROS standards?

Does the current road access accomodate projected use?

- (DF) Can the mix of vehicle/pedestrian traffic be reduced?
- (DF) Can traffic congestion at the blind corner be reduced?

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Can further site degradation be eliminated? Can existing degradation be rehabilitated? How can habitat components be incorporated?

#### OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Are there compatable programs to generate support funding?

- (DF) How do ROS experiences compare with visitor use?
- (DF) How can a range of universal access be provided?
- (DF) Can potential impacts to North Point permittee be reduced?
- (DF) Can potential for vandalism and litter impacts be reduced?

# D. SITE DESIGN CRITERIA

These criteria establish how values will be enhanced or protected to develop and maintain the Desired Future Condition of the site. They will also be evaluated in the site specific monitoring plan.

- \* Manage the rock cliff at the least level of development to maintain the current experience. Design use away from the cliff, sign, erect barriers to reroute access, and monitor the effectiveness.
- \* Manage stands for old-growth characteristics: selective thinning should be considered to allow a release for more rapid growth, to reach mature characteristics. Remove hazard trees where necessary.
- \* Revegetate with native plant species to maintain the ecosystem and avoid competition. If possible, use onsite plants. Plant fireweed or Indian paintbrush to demonstrate plant succession after fires.
- \* Provide overstory "tunnel" effect wherever possible to enhance habitat characteristics.

- \* Maintain the diverse mix of conifer species. Minor populations of pine, cedar and spruce shall be protected.
- \* Barren areas will be revegetated to enhance stabilization and to protect the existing ground cover.
- \* Avoid any development within 75 feet of the lookout to maintain a "culturally pure" buffer to protect early historic character.
- \* Incorporate potential interpretive and education features to protect sites and design in use patterns. Include: natural views, historic views, environmental education and resource management.
- \* Develop a range of interpretive methods for human interaction and self-guided, self discovery opportunities for understaffed periods.
- \* Develop a range of universal access opportunities with the majority of use designed with Challenge Level 2 or 3 to be consistent with the Roaded Natural ROS class.
  - a) Parking and sanitation facilities should provide "Easy Access" or Challenge Level 4 such as slope, trail width, etc. Do not use pavement or concrete to maintain a minimal development level.
  - b) Access to the lookout shall meet "Moderate Access" or Challenge Level 3. Farther away from the core use, facilities may meet Challenge Level 2 or "Difficult Access."
  - c) Future trails terminating at the site will meet the Challenge Level 1, or "Most Difficult."
- \* Designate trails into Kloshe Nanitch as "Closed to Motorized Use" to protect resources and reduce conflicts in interpretive setting.
- \* Alert users of potential safety hazards on and around the site.
- \* Maintain single-lane vehicle access to North Point, but limit traffic to essential use to enhance habitat characteristics and minimize traffic competing with day-use trails.
- \* Control pedestrian access (particularly with vehicular crossings) throughout the site to maximize safety.
- \* Maintain a partial retention scenic quality objective along the access route to reduce exposure, provide a natural guardrail and reduce any road scar visible from 101 or along the route. Create openings to provide scenic vistas and pullouts.
- \* Maintain a record of inspections, incidents, and corrective actions actions in the Monitoring Plan.

### E. FACILITIES DESIGN CRITERIA

These criteria will also guide development by establishing how facilities will be designed and maintained to meet the goals:

- \* Consider safety as well as costs for reconstruction, operation and maintenance. Document effectiveness during monitoring.
- \* Improvements and modifications should be architecturally compatible with the historic character of the structures and site.
- \* Maintain facilities' character using near-original materials when possible, considering safety and maintenance.
- \* Exclude any use from within 75 feet of the lookout not associated with "lookout" life to maintain a remote, historic, cultural zone.
- \* Develop opportunities with differing difficulty levels to provide a range of universal access experiences.
- \* Design facilities rustic in nature, and whose main function is to provide site protection and some user comfort.
- \* Use natural, simple, and unobtrusive materials. Synthetic material should be limited to the extent possible for the ROS class.
- \* Design all facilities to become a part of a lookout character "theme" or attraction.
- \* Use near-original materials when possible, considering safety and maintenance.
- \* Provide combined parking needs for day-use and overnight Mt.Muller trailhead parking to minimize conflicts and share resources.
- \* Regulate access in the off-season to protect the site against increased litter, vandalism and accidents.
- \* Provide sanitation facilities for a minimum of 25 PAOT.
- \* Design facilities to keep the site a Development Scale Level III to maintain current ROS experience (no onsite water or power).



Part III

# **Conceptual Designs**

#### A. DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVES

During the site analysis, elements common to all alternatives were incorporated into the Design Criteria: sanitation, access to North Point, vegetation management, design standards, etc.

# Elements that generated a range of alternatives

- 1. Education Interpretation Interpretive opportunities for Kloshe Nanitch were developed from the site values, Forest Interpretive Objectives, and neighboring messages that could be complimented but not competed with. This identified eight view points ideally suited to interpret these. (APPENDIX C).
- 2. <u>Vehicle/Pedestrian Traffic</u> Effects on safety and the visitor recreation experience influenced the greatest conceptual range of alternatives: use patterns; visitor management (signing, etc.); and user contacts.
- 3. <u>Limiting Access</u> Alternative access during low-use periods could reduce potential vandal or litter impacts to both North Point and Kloshe Nanitch.

# Elements considered but not developed

"Fencing the cliff" at the lookout was considered but dropped because no National Forest use is without risk. It also sets a precedent that is inconsistent with use, and modifies the experience without eliminating the risk.

The "Travel Route" is a vested companion but did not generate a separate alternative because it was determined outside the scope of the project. Current objectives preserve the road's primitive character and is consistent with use throughout the Region and with National Forest policy.

#### B. ALTERNATIVE CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS

Six design concepts were generated. Alternative A develops the site within existing site constraints. Four design concepts (Alternatives B through E) expand the site by constructing 800 feet of road and parking to incorporate facilities on the ridge. Alternative F, "No Action," provides the base to compare impacts. The following summarizes the conceptual design drawings and only the preferred alternative will be developed for implementation.

# ALTERNATIVE A: Existing Traffic Pattern and Site Development

Design Concept: \* Develop site within existing limitations next to lookout.

\* Turnaround and overflow parking is at North Point.

# ALTERNATIVE B: One-Way Traffic and Expanded Site Development

Design Concept: \* Construct 800' of access road and expand the site.

\* Establish one-way traffic loop between lookout and

parking above the site.

\* Include Mt.Muller trailhead needs and gate junction.

# ALTERNATIVE C: "West" Cul de Sac Traffic and Expanded Site Development

Design Concept: \* Construct 800' of access road and expand the site.

\* Establish "cul de sac" traffic from west to lookout.

\* Eliminate through-access so user backtracks to parking.

\* Obliterate road access to the north to expand site.

\* Include Mt.Muller trailhead needs and gate junction.

# ALTERNATIVE D: Walk-in Access Only and Expanded Site Development

Design Concept: \* Construct 800' of access road and expand the site.

\* Establish "walk-in" use only into the lookout area.

\* Obliterate road access from the west to expand site.

\* Close road to the north, revegetate, and design trail

to accomodate service vehicles.

\* Include Mt.Muller trailhead needs and gate junction.

# ALTERNATIVE E: "North" Cul de Sac and Expanded Site Development

Design Concept: \* Construct 800' of access road and expand the site.

\* Limit to special vehicle access (physically challenged,

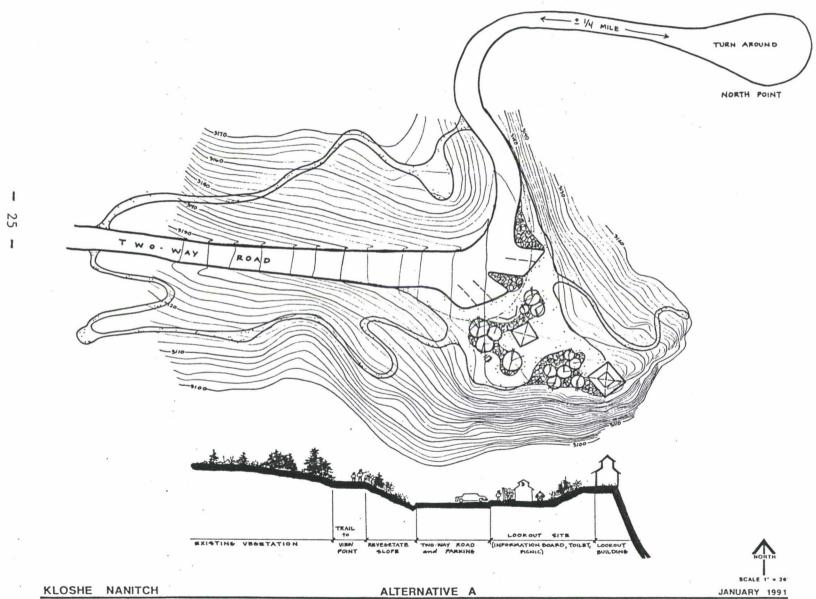
emergency, or administrative access) with turnaround.
\* Obliterate road access from the east to expand site.

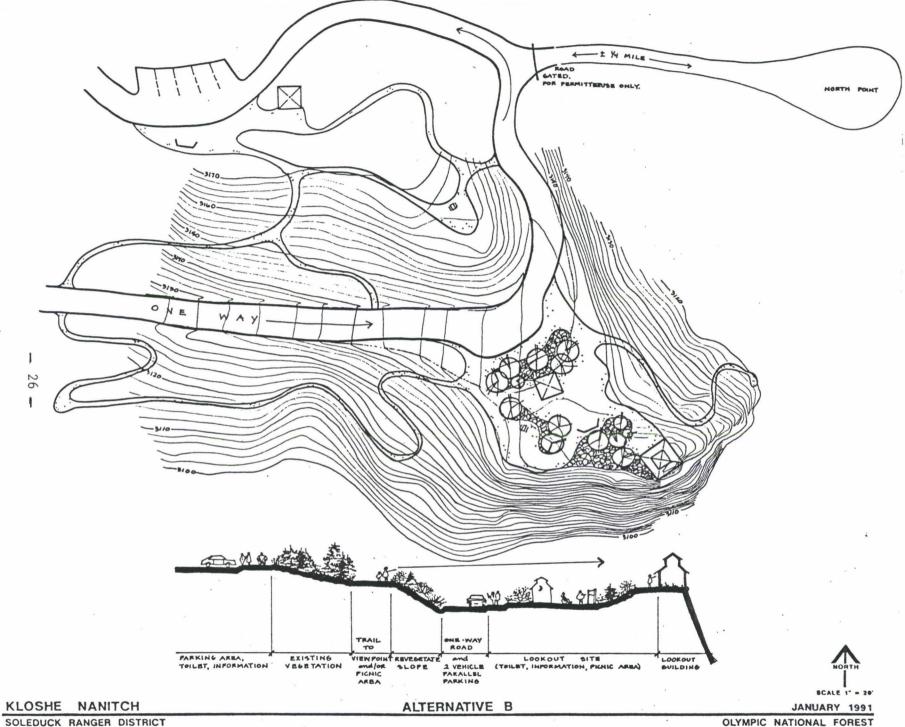
\* Include Mt.Muller trailhead needs and gate junction.

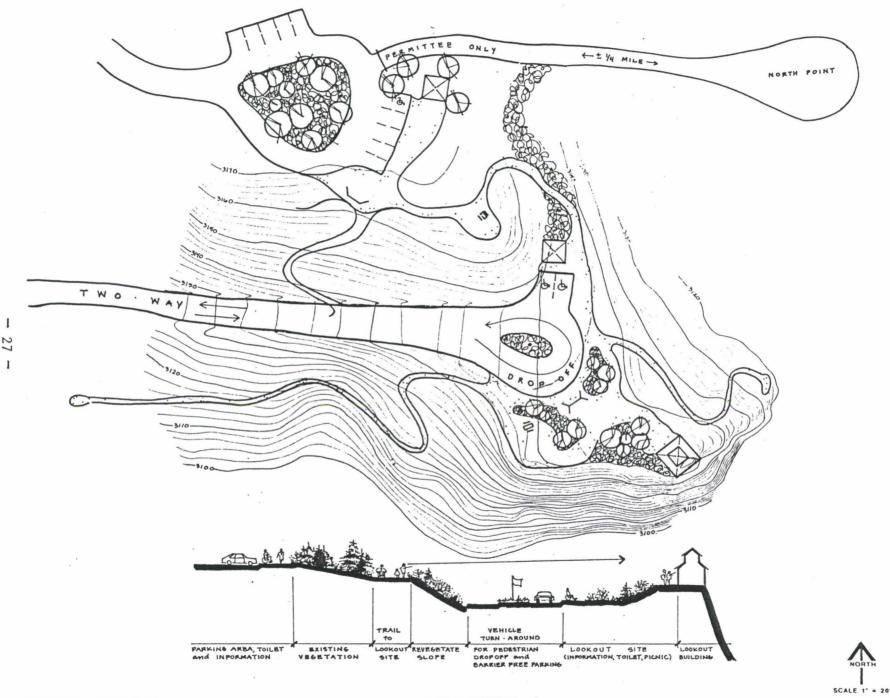
# ALTERNATIVE F: No Action

Design Concept: \* No further site development.

\* Turnaround and overflow parking is at North Point.



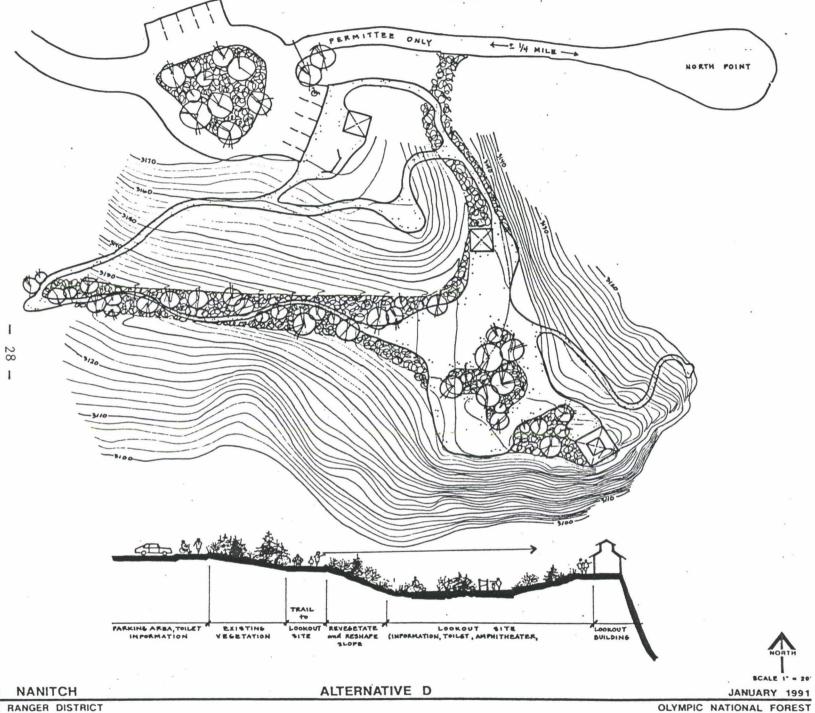




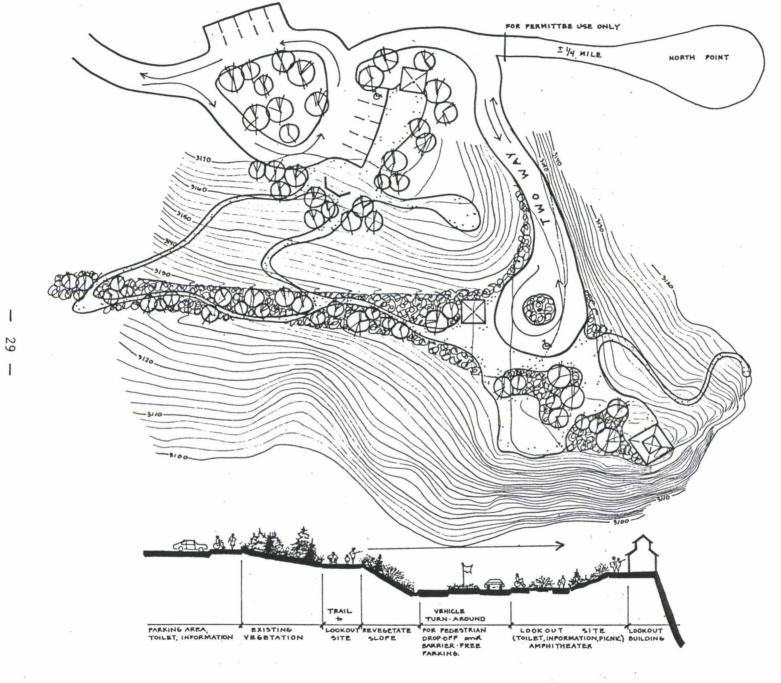
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JANUARY 1991



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SOLEDUCK RANGER DISTRICT

# C. COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

This section analyzes the degree each concept satisfies the decision factors. A recommended alternative will be based on the results.

How does the ROS experience for the visitor compare? How is the vehicle - pedestrian traffic mix affected? Is congestion at the blind corner reduced?

Safety and ROS factors are addressed together since the strategies have essentially the same effect: A lower mix of pedestrians and vehicles provides fewer contacts, reducing risk and increasing the visitor experience. This is summarized in the ROS Comparision Matrix in APPENDIX D.

Alternatives A and F use the existing congested route. The site is expanded in B through E by altering traffic patterns. Alternatives B and C reduce some congestion by providing a visitor drop-off and offsite parking, but are confusing and require more signage.

Alternatives D and E provide the greatest opportunity for dispersed day-use by diverting primary traffic from the site. One result is a more desirable experience since "fewer social encounters" is a function of visitor satisfaction. D eliminates traffic and the related congestion, while Alternative E allows short-term parking for universal access or administrative use only.

#### What range of day-use opportunities are offered by the alternatives?

APPENDIX C summarizes the effects of traffic flows on the eight identified viewpoints. Alternatives A and F provide the minimum number of interpretive viewpoints offered: entry kiosk, lookout, picnic area, and the rockface trail below the lookout. A nature trail between the parking and lookout is provided in Alternatives B through E, but traffic affects some use in B and C. The Wildflower Rim is only available in D and E, the alternatives that offer all eight viewpoints free from competing use.

The expansion in Alternatives B through E provide an equal level of support for Mt. Muller facilities, while A and F provide none.

### Can litter and vandal impacts at North Point and the site be reduced?

These strategies are also similar and will be addressed together. The 1991 Lookout Management Survey identified "access to the site" as a primary deterrent to control vandalism and litter. Access can be controlled by gating the 3040 595 road junction, but this is not desirable unless warranted because it is too restrictive.

Alternatives B through E provide opportunities for some off-season use, but limit access by installing a gate system closer to the site. Eliminating access from the west offers the greatest flexibility and fewer complications in Alternatives D and E.

## E RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE

All development alternatives eliminate sanitation concerns. No Action, Alternative F, does not. Since sanitation is a priority in National Forest management policy, some action is recommended.

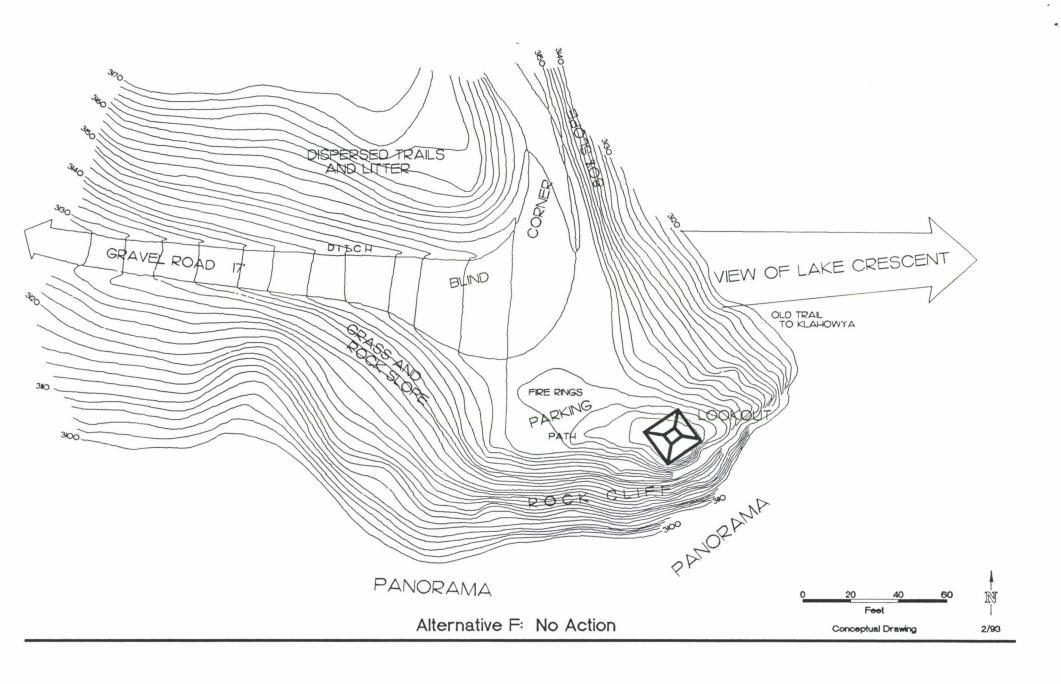
The vehicle access at the lookout directly affects the quality of the experience. Dust, noise, resource wear, crowding, litter and visual obstructions are a few. Limiting access would reduce these as well as the accident risk in a confined area, and help manage use. D and E provide the best traffic flow patterns and dispersed use, to provide the fewest social encounters and impacts to resources. Alternative D allows a more primitive experience and incorporates a Universal Access Level 2.

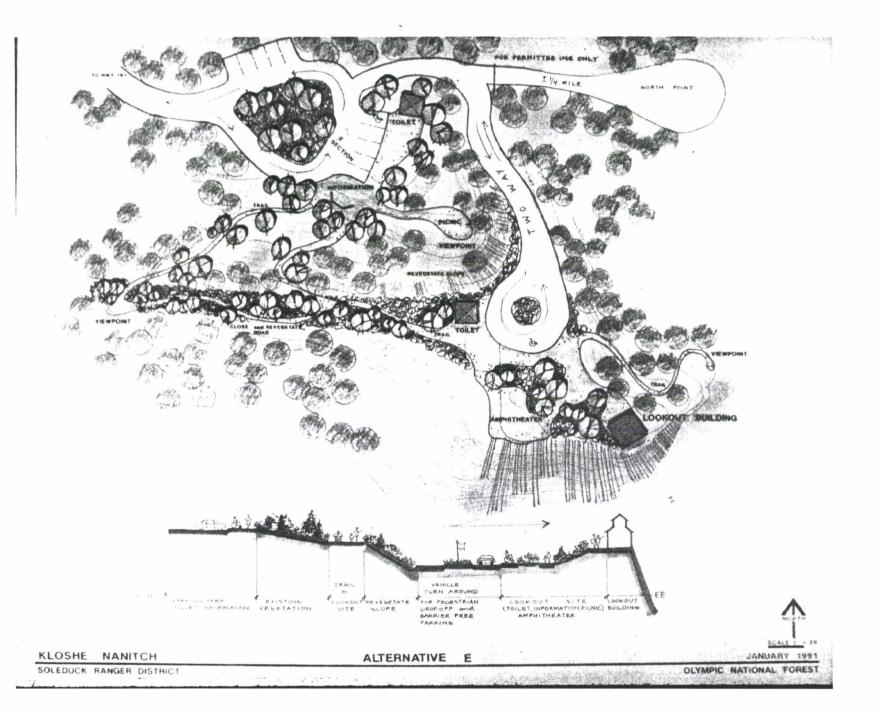
Alternative E is preferred because it provides the best mix of day-use, recreation experience, and management opportunities. One of the unique features of the site is the accessibility to all levels. Discontinuing long established access may alienate users without a clear understanding of the benefits or the clientele affected. Folks with limited abilities may choose the Level 3 access at the site, or commute from the parking area for a Level 2 experience. The transition from existing conditions to the preferred alternative are displayed on the following pages.

#### F MONITORING PLAN

The site will be monitored to protect resources, meet health and safety concerns, and incorporate user input where appropriate. Implementation monitoring will insure we get what we asked for during development. Effectiveness monitoring will evaluate if what we asked for is what we want. It will insure that the Design Criteria meets objectives and the Desired Future Condition.

The District Recreation will track maintenance, inspections, corrective actions, visitor comments, incidents, near-misses, etc. Emphasis will be placed on adequate maintenance or signing near hazardous conditions: lookout, beginning of Road 3040, cliff, etc. Where possible, facilities such as signing, will be installed in a secure but temporary fashion. This will allow an evaluation during use to determine effectiveness of appropriate message, location, etc. A review of the effectiveness of companion projects will be incorporated into the management of the site Some are included in OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, page 13: partners; alternate access routes; compatability of programs; etc.







Part IV

# **Appendicies**

LOOKOUT:			STRUCTURE:	Cupola		Ground Level:	-	Tower	-'	Other	
Forest:	District:	OF	Built:	(19	)	(19 )	_ ' .	(19	)	(19	)
Pos	ONTACT:		DG: R06F Phone:()	D A	( )De Speci	TION: G ( )F ( )P eteriorated ( ) al Status: Evaluated: N ? Y > Vilderness:					
Water: Heat:( Toilet:( Power:(	(Distance) ((	ppane . none . ( ) solar . ( )	ROS Class:   ( ) P ( ) SPNM ( ( ) RN (	) SPM ) Urban		( ) Fire Only (S ( ) Fire Only (E ( ) Smoke Manage ( ) Combined: ( ) Not in Use >  Staffed: Voluntee	easona mergen /air q % Fi USE	l) ( cy) ( uality ( re Planned?	) In	nterpreti	ve Only
Mi to Di Lane Gr 1 1/2 2 Maint. Le	ROAD O Highway Ort or Man Cavel Paved For	ACCESS  paged prest Diffi  % ( ) ( ) ( ) Permi	LengthHwy to The Coulty Level [Note that it is not because the country of the country that is not because the country that is not because the country of the country	Ft Mi H: Mi N S V]	Bee Rer V Sea	TTAL Plan Y N  Return: Fee: enefits(B)/Improve(  Ital [N S V] Consider  Thy: ( ) Generate  Enson: ( )Spring		( )Spr ( )Sum ( )Fal ( )Wir <b>Y N</b> ( ) Publi mmer ( )	ring mmerlterc Serv:	ice ()_	
Restricti Ga LO Destina Access %	cess: N Y lons: lted: ltion: Y N: lt Use:% by			Ski	Visi	clic Visitation Encomposition  Sign ( ) Brook  tor Count:  CERPRETATION Plan:  ) Onsite signing ) Brochure	hure (	) Log/sig ) Guestim . Theme	n-in nate opporto	( ) Ta ( ) unities: se (	) TM
[N S V] Notes:	Structure: (ac	comodates wh	neelchair) Y y-up: ( ) Send	N Info	( ( Mul	) Interpreter ) ti-theme: Y N  TNERSHIPS: [N S V : ( ) Interp. Asset	s ] ( oc. (	. ( ) ( ) ingle or M ) Volunte	History (ain-the	y:	Assoc.
[NSV] N	Notes "How famil	iar": Not	Somewhat Very	7	1	201140		T		Y_	

# Common name Scientific name

# Vegetation

### EVERGREEN TREES

Pacific silver fir
western hemlock
Douglas fir
western redcedar
Sitka spruce
western white pine

Abies amabilis
Tsuga heterophylla
Pseudotsuga menziesii
Abies amabilis
Picea sitchensis
Pinus monticola

# SHRUBS and FLOWERS

kinnikinnick Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi salal Gaultheria shallon Oregon grape Berberis nervosa lily-of-the-valley Maianthemom unifolium dilatatum bunchberry Cornus canadensis wild strawberry Fragaria virginiana mountain valerian Valeriana sitchensis Avalanche lily Erythronium montanum indian paintbrush Castilleja minata Columbia lily Lilum columbianum broadleaf lupine Luipinus latifolius queen's cup Clintonia uniflora salmonberry Rubus spectabilis) Lathyrus Spp. sweetpeas sandwort Arenaria spp. woolly-sunflower Eriophyllum lanatum) Sitka valerian Valeriana sitchensis Athrium filix-femina lady fern Penstemon P.procerus Pyrola unkeyed

## Wildlife

spotted owl Strix occidentalis

VIEWPOINC	besign concepts	
IDI	ENTIFIED VIEWPOINTS	AVAILABILITY By ALTERNATIVE
Design Criteria: Un:	IENTATION KIOSK (Entry to Site) iversal Access: Level 3 neral opportunities and rules terpretation / Education Base	COMMOM TO ALL  More room in B, C, D, and E
VIEWPOINT 2 PIG	CNIC AREA (Overlooking lookout)	COMMON TO ALL
	iversal Access: Level 2 vered shelter (25 People at One Time)	Most room in B, C, D, and E
	TURE TRAIL (From Parking to lookout)	B, C, D, and E
Vie	ews of valley, Olympics, Lk.Crescent ee identification	No road impacts to D and E.
VIEWPOINT 4 LO	OKOUT EXTERIOR (North side)	
Evo	iversal Access: Level 3 olution of lookouts ew of Lake Crescent	COMMON TO ALL
VIEWPOINT 5 LOG	OKOUT INTERIOR	
Exp	iversal Access: Level 3 perience remote lookout rly Communications, access	COMMON TO ALL
VIEWPOINT 6 ROO	CKFACE (below lookout)	
His Veg	ker: "Easy" Access storical segment of access trail getation growing on rock outcrop ew of Lake Crescent	No road impacts to C, D, and E
VIEWPOINT 7 VAI	LLEY OVERLOOK (200' west of lookout)	
Vie	iversal Access: Level 2 ew of valley, Olympics, lookout story below	No road impacts to D and E
VIEWPOINT 8 WII	LDFLOWER RIM (Road from west)	AVAILABLE ONLY
	iversal Access: Level 2 ture trail (Revegetate road)	to D and E (Not applicable if road exists)

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ROS   ELEMENTS:	ALTERNATIVE A TWO WAY	ONE WAY LOOP	ALTERNATIVE C CUL DE SAC (West)	WALK - IN Emergency Access	ALTERNATIVE E  CUL DE SAC (North)  UA /Emergency	NO ACTION (Undefined Use)
ACCESS:	Best chance for socialization & reduced risk of challenge.	S - OPPORTUNITY FOR : Traffic slightly more reduced than "A" and "C"	SOLITUDE IS REDUCED    Traffic about the   same or slightly   more than "A".	GREATER OPPORTUNIT  Best chance for reduced meetings; restricted to "Emergency" only.	reduced meetings; administrative, restricted to vehicles for PCA,	
REMOTENESS:	CONCENTRATED USE  Parking and Day use would mix.	Day use opportuni	DECENTRALIZED  ties would disperse, uenced by traffic.	ould disperse,   Traffic is separate   Traffic is separate		
SOCIAL ENCOUNTERS:	GREATEST CHANCE OF INTERACTION  Meets all traffic twice.		SOME CHANCE FOR INTERACTION IS REDUCED  Traffic use at the Eliminates traffic site is reduced.   from part of site.		BEST CHANCE TO REDUCE INTERACTION  Visitors who choose to enjoy site from a distance will not walk to the site.	
VISITOR MANAGEMENT:	MINIMAL CONTROL REQUIRED Use and traffic patterns are clear to user.	Requires the most use. May be frus	NTROL TO EXPLAIN USE signing to regulate trating to visitor to ttraction to park.	EASIEST TO DEFINE USE - FEWER SIGNS  Acceptable to most current users; probably acceptable to new user.		EVENTUALLY WILL BE FRUSTRATING Use will become more and more congested.
FACILITIES and SITE MANAGEMENT:	LIMITED FEELING OF INDEPENDENCE		HIGHER LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE DUE TO DISTANCE FROM PARKING, ETC.		HIGHEST LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE DUE TO SEPARATION BETWEEN USES	
VISITORS IMPACTS:	MOST IMPACTS EXPECTED FROM CONDENSED USE	CONCENTRATED VEH	MORE POTENTIAL IMPACTS DUE TO CONCENTRATED VEHICLE USE (DUST, NOISE, WEAR AND TEAR, ETC.).		LEAST IMPACTS DUE TO THOSE WILLING TO TAKE THE SHORT WALK TO THE LOOKOUT.  Preferred by most respondents.	
NATURALNESS:	Most Activity   Condensed Into   Elements	Activity and Use Spread Out	Greater Activity condensed into Elements B - C	PROVIDES MOST NATURAL EXPERIENCE		PROVIDES LEAST NATURAL EXPERIENCE

UA: Universal Access